501.36931CX1

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

IWASAKI, et al

Serial No.:

09/985,904

Filed:

November 6, 2001

For:

SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE HAVING LAYERED

INTERCONNECT STRUCTURE WITH A COPPER OR PLATINUM CONDUCTING FILM AND A NEIGHBORING FILM (As Amended)

Group Art Unit:

2813

Examiner:

Stephen W. Smoot

AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

September 20, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 20, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph from page 22, line 1 to page 24, line 5, and substitute therefor the following new paragraph:

In the third embodiment, at least one of the conductor film 117 as coated with the neighboring films 116a, 116b, and the conductor film 123 as coated with the neighboring films 122a, 122b shall be formed of a combination of materials that satisfies an inequality of $\{A + B \times (a_p/b_p)\} < 13$, where A indicates the difference between the short side, a_n , of the rectangular unit cells that constitute the plane with minimum free

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